

On the mountain above the water work's reservoir is a clump of mixed bush near which lives an old man who knows the birds thoroughly. He has often told me of a season long ago when a number of red birds bred there which had not the black wings and tail of the Scarlet Tanager. I have looked at this bush with interest ever since, and on May 20, this year, as I was scrutinizing a group of Tanagers leisurely sunning themselves among the topmost branches of a tall elm, I noticed one different in plumage from the others. In bringing it down I was greatly pleased to find a fine female of the Summer Redbird (*Pyrranga æstiva*), this being the first record of the species for Canada, so far as I am aware.

I think I have also seen the Connecticut Warbler but without actual measurement it is difficult to distinguish between it and the Mourning Warbler.—THOMAS McILWRAITH, *Hamilton, Ontario*.

Breeding of *Passerculus princeps* on Sable Island.—In the last number of 'The Auk' Mr. Ridgway stated: "The National Museum possesses a considerable series of eggs labelled '*Passerculus savana*, Sable Island, Nova Scotia, July, 1862; J. P. Dodd.' which are uniformly so much larger than those of the Savannah Sparrow as to strongly suggest the probability that they may be in reality those of the Ipswich Sparrow. At any rate the matter is worth investigating, and it is hoped that some reader of 'The Auk' may be able to decide the question" (pp. 292-293). Acting upon the above suggestion I immediately wrote to the Rev. W. A. Des-Brisay, a resident missionary of Sable Island, requesting him to send me a specimen of the common 'Gray Bird' of the Island. This he was kind enough to do, and the specimen, in confirmation of Mr. Ridgway's suspicion, proves to be an unquestionable Ipswich Sparrow.—C. HART MERRIAM, *Locust Grove, N. Y.*

The Cardinal Grosbeak breeding in Brooklyn, N. Y.—June 8, 1884, I found *Cardinalis virginianus* breeding in Prospect Park, Brooklyn. The nest, which contained three eggs, was very loosely constructed, principally of the long, slender leaves of various aquatic plants, and was suspended in a mass of vines drooping over the bed of a small brook.—E. T. ADNEY, *29 West 36th St., New York City*.

The Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) in Western Vermont.—The occurrence of birds beyond their natural or normal habitat is always of interest, since from a study of these occurrences and their causes many facts in regard to geographical distribution are brought out. On June 1, 1883, I had the pleasure of taking two specimens of that rather southern species, the Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*), at Middlebury, Vermont. They were taken on the campus of Middlebury College, and are now in the College Museum. They were both males, one being in the perfect plumage of the adult, the other in the immature dress of the young bird. When shot they were skipping about in the branches of a maple, and a diligent search failed to reveal others of the species. So far as I am able to ascertain, this is the first record of the occurrence of this species in this State.—F. H. KNOWLTON, *National Museum, Washington, D. C.*